

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

~ A 2019 WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE FOOD TEAM COMMUNIQUÉ ~
~ AUGUST 2018 ~



With now less than one year to the excitement of the World Scout Jamboree, I have a sense of calm about one aspect of the food operation – the Staff Dining team. Although staff dining remains a somewhat moving target with Jamboree planners, I know that by next summer we can and will deliver dining pleasure for ten thousand IST staff. They will enjoy a hot breakfast then pack their lunch with an array of good shelf stable options to later return for a wide choice of hot dinners all of which will accommodate the true diversity of dietary ways of the world (and I dare say with pleasure).

With that bold statement made, let me share as I start this issue of our monthly newsletter saying that staff dining success doesn't mean it happens effortlessly. I would venture a guess that few of the readers focus on the fact that the leadership of the Food Teams, including notably Staff Dining, are among the very first to arrive at the Jamboree. While many of you are still thinking of packing for your travels next summer, the volunteer leadership of all of the Food Teams will be at the Summit already getting things set.

The reason the Staff Dining team leadership and core managers arrive so early for the Jamboree is simple. When the many other volunteers on staff begin their stand-up operations . . . they will want to be fed. In order for Food Team to provide them support from the moment they step on Summit soil, with three meals a day and a place to unwind at day's end, we have to get there ahead of all others to ready that dining facility for the rest of you.

The Echo Staff Dining complex is a full-service food operation under canvas. For those who have not seen it, picture a World Cup playing field under cover. In a very short time we transform open space with a series of tents into a place that thousands may enjoy their meals daily with ease. If you can't picture what it will become, check out the main picture on Facebook: [Jamboree Food Team Facebook Group](#) . By the way, the tent array will be about 1/3 bigger this time . . . if you can picture that. And if you can't, rest assured that I too am having a bit of trouble fathoming the ever-increasing scale of the World

Jamboree feeding as our numbers of IST to feed daily nears 10,000 . . . so let's just say we are in good company of wonderment!

There are other new and exciting aspects of staff dining that will be introduced at the World Jamboree. We will open and operate for the first time a small staff dining area in the Alpha/Bravo Base Camp area. This will accommodate staff assigned to live in these areas and thus eliminate the need for them to take the exceptionally long ride to and from Echo for their meals twice daily.

At some point though I am guessing several of you will soon be wondering “what is the plan for breakfast, lunch and dinner meals” – or put bluntly you might be thinking words along the lines of “*what is the IST staff dining menu?*” I say without hesitancy that the menu for breakfast, lunch and dinner has not been finally set yet. In fact, it will not be fully established until we get much closer to the Jamboree. We have good ideas and even draft plans in place, but it is impossible to lock it in this early for good reason. So our readers may know why we put this off to a later date, the purveyors of food items to prepare staff dining meals do not plan a year in advance but rather their time line is measured in just a few short months. That is understandable because product availability is never guaranteed way out and is far more predictable when they are inquiring about availability and ordering around 90 days before the Jamboree.

That does not mean you have to wait for a lot of other information about staff dining. The Jamboree Food Team has already published a long explanation of how we operate the Staff Dining facilities and the array of meal service plans we have set in place including accommodation of the many dietary ways. All you have to do is read what you will find when you click: <http://jamboreefoodteam.org/2019-staff-dining-info/>

Before closing this newsletter we want to remind you that all prior *Food for Thought* newsletters can be found here: <http://jamboreefoodteam.org/2019-jamboree-food-team-documents/> along with a lot more information for those so inclined to browse. Naturally if you have any questions please feel free to direct them to the WSJ Food Team by emailing us at: 2019jamboreefood@gmail.com.

P.S. – one year from tomorrow the 24th World Scout Jamboree goes into the history books!